## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 CU-04 /045 W

R 030650 Z APR 73 FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1395 INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0202

E. O. 11652: N/AN

TAGS: QGOV, SOCI, SCUL, ECON, EFIN, GR SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKEND PRESS

REF: THESSALONIKI 0201

- 1. IN ADDITION TO COMMENTARY ON IERONYMOS RESIGNATION ( REFTEL), FOLLOWING ARE POINTS OF INTEREST IN THESSALONIKI WEEKEND PRESS:
- 2. GREEK CULTURAL MOVEMENT: WEEKLY REVIEW COLUMN OF APRIL 1
  " VORRAS" CITES RUMORS OF IMPENDING CABINET RESHUFFLE
  INCLUDING LIKELY APPOINTMENT OF FORMER POLITICIANS
  VARDINOYIANNIS AND STIROPOULOS. APPOINTMENTS MIGHT BE
  PART OF " CULTURAL MOVEMENT" WHICH ALREADY IN BEGINNING STAGE.
  " CLEAR INDICATIONS" EXIST OF SUCH MOVEMENT ON NATIONAL
  LEVEL, AND FIRST GROUPS HAVE BEEN ORGANIZED AND " MEMBERS
  ENROLLED" WITH VIEW TOWARD EARLY PUBLIC APPOINTMENT. GREEKS

CAN EXPECT FORTHCOMINGANNOUNCEMENT OF "CULTURAL MOVEMENT", POSSIBLY INCLUDING "OLD POLITICIANS". COMMENT: IMPLICATION OF REPORT IS THAT NEW ORGANIZATION WOULD BE GOVERNMENT- SPONSORED INITIATIVE.

3. REACTION TO INFLATIONARY CURBS: ALL WEEKEND PAPERS FRONTPAGED NEW GOVERNMENT STEPS TO LIMIT INFLATION. REPORTS FOLLOW ATHENS PRESS AND ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT IN APRIL 1 "VORRAS" NOTED THAT STEPS DUE TO INFLATED BUDGET AND MAY UNCLASSIFIED

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LEAD TO PRESSURE FOR HIGHER WAGES WITHOUT EFFECTIVELY CURBING REAL ESTATE SPECULATION.

- 4. NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS MEETING: ALL PAPERS ALSO REPORTED MARCH 30 OPENING HERE OF SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION OF GREEK YOUTH CORPS ("SOMA ELLINON ALKIMON"). THREE-DAY MEETING WAS ORGANIZED BY CORPS PRESIDENT AND FORMER "C" CORPS COMMANDER, RETIRED LT. GEN. KARADEMAS, AND INTENDED TO REVIEW CURRENT YOUTH ACTIVITIES. COMMENT: YOUTH CORPS, REVIVED FOLLOWING 1967 REVOLUTION, IS SPONSORED AND FUNDED BY PRESENT GOVERNMENT, AND ALL SENIOR LOCAL OFFICIALS ATTENDED OPENING CEREMONY.
- 5. INAUGURATION OF GREEK MUTUAL FUND (: ALL PAPERS COVERED LOCAL INAUGURATION MARCH 30 OF GREEK MITUAL FUND (GMF) AND SPEECH BY GEORGE ANDREADIS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANK OF GREECE. ANDREADIS EMPHASIZED POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION OF FUND TO GREEK DEVELOPMENT BEFORE AUDIENCE OF 750 SENIOR LOCAL OFFICIALS AND BUSINESSMEN. COMMENT: ANDREADIS VISIT INTENDED TO PROMOTE APRIL 2 STOCK OFFERING BY GMF, FIRST MUTUAL FUND IN GREECE, WITH COMMERCIAL BANK OF GREECE, BARCLAYS BANK, AND MERRIL, LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER, AND SMITH AS PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS.
- 6. VISIT BY MIN ED GANDONAS: MARCH 31 APRIL 2 VISIT TO THESSALONIKI BY EDUCATION MINISTER GANDONAS FOR OPENING OF ECONOMIC SEMINAR AT HIGHER INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL ALSO COVERED IN ALL PAPERS. WHILE HERE, GANDONAS MET WITH SENIOR UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS AND STUDENT UNION LEADERS AND INSPECTED TWELVE SCHOOLS FOR 10,000 STUDENTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

  BRENNAN

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<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts:

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 03 APR 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Camment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: **Disposition Remarks:** 

Document Number: 1973THESSA00202 Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: n/a Errors: n/a Film Number: n/a From: THESSALONIKI Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730432/aaaahmwy.tel Line Count: 100 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 73 THESSALONIKI 0201 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Authority: willialc Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 27 AUG 2001

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <24-Jan-2002 by willialc>

**Review Markings:** 

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN

Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971120 Subject: HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKEND PRESS TAGS: ECON, EFIN, SCUL, SOCI, GR

To: ATHENS

NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005